Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MANILA 15809 01 OF 02 111145Z

12

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 VOE-00 SCA-01 INSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 DEAE-00 SSO-00 /020 W

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O 111030Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9320

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 15809

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF VS, CB

SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 236685 AND 259553

- 1. IN PREPARING ITS REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED EVERY APPLICATION FOR REFUGEE STATUS. THE COUNT, THEREFORE, IS SOLID WITH EACH FIGURE PROVIDED BEING BACKED UP WITH NAMES OF SPECIFIC REFUGEES.
- 2. IN MAKING ITS SURVEY, IT BACAME APPARENT THAT A DISTINCTION HAD TO BE MADE BETWEEN THOSE VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS THE EMBASSY CONSIDERED AS BEING TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY RESETTLED IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THOSE WHOSE STATUS IS, AT BEST, INSECURE. THE EMBASSY IS THEREFORE PROVIDING TWO TABLES OF STATISTICS.
- 3. THE FIRST TABLE CONCERNS THOSE VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS WHO HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO ENTER THE PHILIPPINES BUT WHO HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN THE NECESSARY RESIDENCE OR WORK PERMITS THAT EQUATE WITH PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT. INCLUDED IN THIS CATEGORY ARE THOSE WHO ARE STILL QUARTERED AT THE JOSE FABELLA CENTER (THE ONLY FACILITY IN THE PHILIPPINES THAT RESEMBLES A REFUGEE CAMP) AND STUDENTS WHO WERE INITIALLY ADMITTED TO THE PHILIPPINES AS NONIMMIGRANTS.
- 4. THE SECOND TABLE CONCERNS THOSE VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT FOR WHAT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MANILA 15809 01 OF 02 111145Z

AMOUNTS TO PERMANENT RESIDENCE. THIS CATEGORY INCLUDES

FORMER DIPLOMATS WHO ARE STILL WORKING FOR THE ASIAN DEVELOP-MENT BANK AND THOSE WHO WERE BROUGHT TO THE PHILIPPINES ABOARD THE PHILIPPINE SHIP MISAMIS ORIENTAL. THIS SHIP WAS DISPATCHED TO VIETNAM IN APRIL 1975 TO EVACUATE PHILIPPINE NATIONALS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS. AS IT TURNED OUT, MANY OF THE QUOTE WIVES UNQUOTE WERE COMMON LAW WIVES WHO WERE ABANDONED BY THEIR PHILIPPINE QUOTE HUSBANDS UNQUOTE WHO RETURNED TO THEIR LEGAL WIVES UPON ARRIVAL IN MANILA. THE MISAMIS ORIENTAL GROUP, ESTIMATED AT 1100. COMPRISES THE LARGEST SINGLE GROUP OF VIETNAMESE IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE EMBASSY HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN THE POSITION THAT A VIETNAMESE DEPENDENT (WIFE OR CHILD) OF A PHILIPPINE CITIZEN IS PERMANENTLY RESETTLED HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES REGARDLESS OF THE PRESENCE OF OTHER RELATIVES (E.G. BROTHERS AND SISTERS) IN THE UNITED STATES. WHERE COMMON LAW RELATIONSHIPS ARE KNOWN TO EXIST OR BELIEVED TO EXIST WITH FILIPINOS. THE VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN LISTED ON THE SECOND TABLE. AS THE EMBASSY LEARNS MORE ABOUT EACH CASE, IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT SEVERAL MISAMIS ORIENTAL EVACUEES WILL EVENTUALLY MEET THE REFUGEE CRITERIA (E.G. THE SISTER OF THE WIFE OF A PHILIPPINE CITIZEN WHO HAS A BROTHER IN THE UNITED STATES).

5. STATE 259553 DOES NOT MAKE ANY DISTINCTION ABOUT THE TIME PERIOD DURING WHICH THE REFUGEE DEPARTED FROM VIETNAM OR CAMBODIA. WE HAVE DIVIDED OUR FIGURES INTO THREE DEPARTURE PERIODS, NAMELY, PRE-15 MAR 75, 15 MAR 75 TO 1 JUL 75, AND POST 1 JUL 75. IN ORDER TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING RELATED TO THIS FACTOR, THERE IS A HORIZONTAL BREAKOUT OF FIGURES AS FOLLOWS:

COLUMN I - PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS WHO DEPARTED VIETNAM OR CAMBODIA BEFORE 1 MAR 75

COLUMN II : FAMILY MEMBERS OF COLUMN I

COLUMN III : TOTAL OF COLUMNS I AND II

COLUMN IV : PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS WHO DEPARTED BETWEEN 15 MAR 75 AND 1 JUL 75

COLUMN V : FAMILY MEMBERS OF COLUM IV

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MANILA 15809 01 OF 02 111145Z

COLUMN VI : TOTAL OF COLUMNS IV AND V

COLUMN VII : PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS WHO DEPARTED AFTER

1 JUL 75

COLUMN VIII : FAMILY MEMBERS OF COLUMN VII

COLUMN IX : TOTAL OF COLUMNS VII AND VIII

COLUMN X: TOTALS OF COLUMNS I, IV, AND VII.

COLUMN XI: TOTAL OF COLUMNS II, V, AND VIII.

COLUMN XII : TOTAL OF COLUMNS III, VI, AND IX.

6. LINES 1 THROUGH 5 CORRESPOND TO THE FIRST FIVE SUBDIVISIONS IN STATE 259553. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT WE INTERPRET THE ENTRY QUOTE FORMER USG EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES UNQUOTE AS BEING THOSE WHO WERE EMPLOYED UNTIL THE TIME OF THE GENERAL EVACUATION. THOSE WHO TERMINATED THEIR EMPLOYMENT AT AN EARLIER DATE ARE INCLUDED IN LINE 7.C.(1).

7. LINE 6 OF STATE 259553 DOES NOT EXIST AS A SEPARATE ENTRY. THE BREAKOUT OF ACCOMPANYING RELATIVES ARE TO BE FOUND IN COLUMNS II, V, AND VIII.

8. LINE 7 IS SUB-DIVIDED AND BROKEN DOWN ACCORDING TO THE SUBDIVISIONS FOUND IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF STATE 236685.

9. LINE 8 IS ADDED AND REPRESENTS THE RESIDUE OF THE FORMER DIPLOMATS (INCLUDING AID AND SEARCA SPONSORED STUDENTS).

10. LINE 9 REPRESENTS THOSE VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS WHO DO NOT FIT IN ANY OF THE ABOVE CATEGORIES.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 01 MANILA 15809 02 OF 02 111152Z

16

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 VOE-00 SCA-01 INSE-00

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O 111030Z NOV 75 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9321

UNCLAS FINAL SECTION OF 2 MANILA 15809/2

TABLE ONE

TABLE TWO

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII
1 1 4 5 2 7 9 0 0 0 0 3 11 14
2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
3 4 9 13 5 14 19 1 0 1 10 23 33
4 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1
5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MANILA 15809 02 OF 02 111152Z

11. AN ESTIMATE OF REQUESTS FOR PAROLE WHICH MAY MATERIALIZE IN NEXT SIX MONTHS IS EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO PREPARE IN OVERALL NUMBERS,. ESTIMATES BY SEPARATE CATEGORY ARE IMPOSSIBLE. THE PHILIPPINES ARE ISLANDS LOCATED SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES FROM VIETNAM. NOT COUNTING THE US NAVAL AND COMMERCIAL VESSELS THAT ASSISTED IN THE EVAUCATION AND WHICH LANDED AT SUBIC BAY, THERE HAVE BEEN FIVE REFUGEE-CARRYING VESSELS WHICH LANDED IN THE PHILIPPINES (1 PHILIPPINE AND 4 VIETNAMESE). THEY CARRIED

1100, 41, 8, 36, AND 15 EVACUEES RESPECTIVELY. THREE OF THESE VESSELS LEFT VIETNAM AFTER 1 JUL 75. THE COMPELLING URGE TO ESCAPE FROM VIETNAM AND THE LURE OF SUBIC BAY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ATTRACT MORE VIETNAMESE IN THE FUTURE. THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ESCAPE IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, WILL LIMIT THE NUMBER AND SIZE OF SHIPS ARRIVING IN THE PHILIPPINES. WE ESTIMATE THAT AT LEAST 50 BUT NO MORE THAN 100 ADDITIONAL REFUGEES WILL ARRIVE BY SEA. AN ADDITIONAL 50 EVACUEES MAY EMERGE FROM THE WOODWORK, MOSTLY FROM THE MISAMIS ORIENTAL. THE WORTHY CASES WITH QUALIFYING RELATIVES HAVE ALREADY BEEN REGISTERED. REQUEST FOR REFUGEE STATUS FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF CASES THAT MIGHT EMERGE IN THE FUTURE WILL PROBABLY BE REJECTED ON THE BASIS THAT THE APPLICANTS ARE ALREADY RESETTLED.

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